

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Lizhang Yang

Serial No.: 10/687,195

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Docket No.: 58829US002

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TRANSITIONING FIBER OPTIC CABLES

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**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following amended paragraph:

[0009] As used herein, a “fiber optic cable” 90 (as shown in Figure 9) comprises at least one glass core 92, each core surrounded by cladding 94. Buffer 96 surrounds the core/cladding combination and protective jacket 98 surrounds the buffer. A fiber optic cable can contain more than one glass core and cladding combination. Information and data, packaged in the form of light waves, travels the length of the glass core. The term “optical fiber” defines the combination of the glass core, cladding, and buffer and is meant to be an active fiber, i.e., information is transmitted in the optical fiber. A “non-active” fiber is one where no information is being transmitted. When used, the diameter of the non-active fiber is substantially similar to that of the optical fiber and can but does not have to be of the same material as the optical fiber. The “minimum bend radius” (MBR) of the fiber optic cable and its associated optical fiber is a value recommended by the fiber optic cable manufacturer or a value specified by a customer to achieve a desired cable lifetime and a desired optical fiber lifetime. When the fiber optic cable and its optical fiber experience a bend that is of a smaller radius than the MBR, i.e., when the MBR has been violated, the attenuation in the optical fiber increases and the life of the optical fiber decreases. For an optical fiber with 125 micrometer glass diameter, the generally accepted MBR is about one inch (2.54 cm).